

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 21st August 1925.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Diwan Bahadur L. D. SWAMI KANNU PILLAI Avargal, C.I.E., I.S.O.) in the chair.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924—*

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Agriculture.

The work of the Millet Expert at Coimbatore.

* 265 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of assistants to the Millet Expert at Coimbatore ;
(b) whether any breeding work is carried on by the Millet Expert regarding sajja or cumbu ;

(c) if no work is done regarding sajja, what are the reasons for not taking up sajja breeding ;

(d) what is the result of the experiments carried on at Coimbatore regarding the cholam varieties of Ceded districts grown in the millet breeding station, Coimbatore ; and

(e) if the results show that the cholam varieties of the Ceded districts do not thrive well in Coimbatore, whether the Government propose to start a cholam breeding station for the Ceded districts ?

A.—(a) Three.

(b) & (c) This section is primarily engaged on work connected with cholam and ragi. A beginning has, however, been made on cumbu and some varieties have been collected.

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- (d) Definite results have not yet been obtained, but present indications are that cholams from Bellary will not ordinarily set seed freely at Coimbatore.
- (e) If results at Coimbatore prove unsatisfactory, the question of starting a cholam breeding station in the Ceded districts will be considered.

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—“With reference to (b) and (c) it is stated ‘a beginning has however been made on cumbu.’ When was the beginning made?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“I do not know the exact date; quite recently.”

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—“Do the Government consider that further assistance will be necessary to carry on the work connected with the three varieties of cholam, ragi and cumbu?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“The Government are giving their consideration to it.”

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—“Will the Government see their way to arrive at an early decision, having regard to the importance of cumbu for the cotton districts?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“Certainly.”

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—“It is stated here that ‘Bellary cholam will not ordinarily set seed freely at Coimbatore.’ Having regard to the conditions of Bellary and Ceded districts, is it not desirable that Government should move in the matter of establishing a station in the Ceded districts?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“That is what they have to consider with reference to the report received yesterday. There, the Director of Agriculture says pointedly that Bellary cholam will not thrive in Coimbatore. So, a beginning has to be made in the Ceded districts.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“It is stated ‘if results at Coimbatore prove unsatisfactory, the question of starting a cholam breeding station in the Ceded districts will be considered.’ Now, from what the hon. the Minister has stated it is conclusively evident that the results of Coimbatore are not likely to be satisfactory hereafter. May I take it that the question of having a station in the Ceded districts will be given a very early consideration?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“Yes.”

Co-operative Societies.

Appointment of an Inspector of Co-operative Societies, Kurnool.

* 266 Q.—Mr. K. ABDUL HYE SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Kurnool, has appointed an outsider quite recently as Inspector of Co-operative Societies although there were local applicants eligible for the post whose names were already in the list?